

Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116
Serial No. 10/824,247
Filed: April 13, 2004
Poker Game with Required Dealer Discard
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Attorney Docket No. PA1024.ap.US

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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of playing a player-banked poker card game comprising ~~[at least one player making at least one ante wager in poker game]~~:
 - each player placing at least one ante wager to participate in the game;
 - at least one player receiving a first number of cards as a partial player hand and a dealer receiving a second number of unexposed cards as a partial banker hand, the second number of cards having at least one card more then the first number of cards received by the player, the first number of cards and the second number of cards forming partial player hands and a partial banker hand, respectively;
 - providing a set of community cards that are used by the banker and the at least one player to complete the partial banker hand and partial player hands;
 - showing ~~[[the rank of]]~~ one of the banker's cards to provide a rank of a shown banker card;
 - compelling the dealer to discard the shown banker's card if the rank of the shown banker's card is within a first range of values and compelling the dealer to discard an unexposed banker's card if the shown banker's card is within a second range of values that is different from the first range of values to determine a rank of the banker's hand;
 - resolving the at least one ante wager according to rules of the poker game, with the dealer and the at least one player forming a multiple-card banker poker hand and multiple-card player poker hands from a) the community cards and banker's cards and b) the community cards and the at least one player's cards, respectively.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein the dealer must discard the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or below a predetermined rank, and the dealer must retain the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is ~~[at or]~~ above [a] the predetermined rank.

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3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 2 wherein the dealer must discard the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or below a rank of 9 or a rank of 10.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 2 wherein the player must make a play wager of at least 1X the ante wager after determining the dealer's hand to remain in the game.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 and further comprising the player playing an optional additional Ante wager that may be placed in proportion to the ante.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of playing a poker game according to claim 1 wherein the at least one player makes at least two independent ante wagers in the [[poker-type]] poker game:

a player making a first ante wager to participate in the game;

a player making a second ante wager to participate in the same game;

the at least one player receives a first number of cards and a dealer receives a second number of cards, the second number of cards being at least one card more than the first number of cards received by the player, wherein the received cards separately form a part of the player and banker hands;

after the dealer has been compelled to discard the at least one card, allowing the player to withdraw at least one of the at least two ante wagers; and

resolving any ante wager still in play according to rules of the poker [[type]] game, with the dealer and the at least one player forming multiple-card banker hand and multiple-card player poker hands from a) the community cards and the banker's cards and b) the community cards and the at least one player's cards, respectively.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 6 wherein the dealer must discard the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or below a predetermined rank, and the dealer must retain the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is ~~at or~~ above [a] the predetermined rank.

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8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 7 wherein the dealer must discard the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or below a rank of 9 or a rank of 10.
9. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 7 wherein the player must make a play wager of at least 1X at least the ante wager after determining the dealer's hand to remain in the game.
10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein the player has an option of a range of play wagers that may be placed in proportion to the ante that must be placed on the at least one ante to remain in the game.
11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of playing a poker game according to claim 1 wherein:
 - the at least one player makes at least two independent ante wagers in the poker game;
 - a dealer receives cards and at least one player receiving cards, the cards representing part of a banker's hand and part of a player's hand, respectively; and
 - allowing the player under certain conditions to withdraw at least one of the at least two ante wagers, leaving at least one wager remaining in play.
12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11 wherein a number of cards provided to the dealer and player is three and two, respectively, and a first one of the dealer's cards is shown, wherein the dealer must discard the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or below a predetermined rank, and the dealer must retain the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or above a predetermined rank and discard one of the unexposed cards.
13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 12 wherein the dealer must discard the shown dealer's card when the shown dealer's card is at or below a rank of 9 or 10.

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14. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 12 wherein the player must make a play wager of at least 1X the ante wager after determining the dealer's hand to remain in the game.
15. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 14 wherein the player has an option of a range of play wagers that may be placed in proportion to the ante that must be placed on the at least one ante to remain in the game.
16. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 14, wherein the two Ante bets are equal.
17. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 14, wherein a second Ante bet is limited to 3X a first Ante bet.
18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 14, wherein when the condition of the dealer's shown card is an Ace, the player must play both Antes and the dealer retains all dealer cards to play a best five out of six cards.
19. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 14, wherein when the player's hand is a pair or better, the player is permitted to play both Antes.
20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 14, wherein when the dealer's shown card is a King, the player must play both Antes, and the dealer must discard a down card.
- 21-32 (CANCELLED)